

## Maverick Football

UNO defeats East Central  
(Okla.) University 48-0 last  
Thursday evening.

SPORTS  
[PAGE 6]

# gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

## Fashion Show

Local fashion show raises  
money for Mothers Against  
Drunk Driving.

ENTERTAINMENT  
[PAGE 5]



VOLUME 09 | ISSUE 3

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

## Student death possibly linked to H1N1

ANDREA CIUREJ  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

UNO is taking several precautionary steps after a student died Wednesday night of what was believed to be the H1N1 flu virus.

Chancellor John Christensen sent out an e-mail to the UNO community on Friday, stating that a student had died from complications from H1N1.

The local media reported that the victim was 22-year-old Khrystyna Serednytsky, a UNO psychology major who had been diagnosed with muscular dystrophy since birth.

Serednytsky had been enrolled for the fall semester, but she did not attend any of her classes during the first week of school. She did not take any courses over the summer, according to Christensen's e-mail.

"Khrystyna just lost her battle with a very strong and complicated illness," said Serednytsky's mother, Hayla, in a facebook message posted on Khrystyna's wall Aug. 27. "First it collapsed her lungs, then liver...then heart."

In an interview, Hayla said Khrystyna had been at home for a week diagnosed with Influenza Type A and is still waiting to hear back on whether Khrystyna's official cause of death was linked with the H1N1 virus.

"Upon learning of the student's death, members of UNO's Incident Command team were involved in assessing the situation and risk factors," Christensen said in the e-mail. "We believe, at this time, that no UNO student, faculty or staff member has been exposed to



UNO student Khrystyna Serednytsky, center, is shown with two of her former camp counselors.  
(PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM)

the virus from this known case."

With information from the Douglas County Health Department, UNO has developed a flu season policy stating that "the purpose of this policy is to help ensure workplace health and safety and the well-being of students, faculty, staff, family and visitors to the university by reducing the potential or actual exposure to

the Novel Influenza A Virus or seasonal flu."

However, this policy mainly serves as a framework for school attendance.

Marcia Adler, director of UNO Student Health Services, said that the university has revised its school attendance policies for students, faculty and staff to adhere to the safety of the UNO community.

SEE FLU: PAGE 2

## Abortion debate continues at major rally in Bellevue

NOELLE LYNN BLOOD  
NEWS EDITOR

Abortion has been hotly debated for more than 50 years, and the controversy continued on Friday and Saturday as anti-abortion group Operation Rescue gathered outside the Abortion and Contraception Clinic of Nebraska in Bellevue to protest Dr. LeRoy Carhart. Abortion rights groups headed by the National Organization for Women and the Feminist Majority Foundation also rallied at the clinic in support of Carhart.

The attention heaped on Carhart comes only months after the assassination of his

colleague and friend Dr. George Tiller in May of this year. Tiller was one of only a handful of practitioners in the U.S. who performed late-term emergency abortions, making him a target for anti-abortion groups.

Operation Rescue held daily vigils outside Tiller's clinic in Wichita, Kan. On May 31, Tiller was shot point blank in the head as he ushered in his church. His alleged killer is Scott Roeder, an anti-abortion activist who claims ties to Operation Rescue. Representatives for Operation Rescue have denied any relationship to Roeder.

Carhart is now considered the number one target of protest and possible reactionary violence, as he stated several months ago he

would temporarily take on late-term abortions at his Bellevue clinic. Midwestern access to these emergency procedures has been limited by Tiller's murder. Carhart said he would specifically perform third-trimester abortions in which the fetus could not otherwise survive outside the mother's body.

Violence was anticipated at the protest. Bellevue police patrolled

the area and put up roadblocks on Mission Avenue. The opposing protest groups were kept separated and media coverage was tightly regulated. A SWAT team was also present for most of the morning.

Operation Rescue filed a complaint last month alleging Carhart's clinic is in an "appalling state of neglect and disrepair." Four of Carhart's ex-employees have come forward, with allegations of Carhart performing unsafe procedures on patients.

The complaint was forwarded from Attorney General Jon Bruning to the State Department of Health and Human Services. Officials have neither confirmed nor denied whether an investigation is under way.

"They spent 20 years alleging things with Dr. Tiller's clinic, just pure harassment they've alleged from day one," said Carhart. "It was investigated, reinvestigated, over and over investigated and it all turned out to be totally bologna. They never let the truth stand in the way of getting their point across."

At a news conference on Friday, Erin Sullivan, president of the Nebraska chapter of NOW said the abortion rights protesters represented 16 states — Nebraska, Iowa, California, Texas, Kansas, South Dakota, New York, New Jersey, Alabama, Colorado, Kentucky, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Washington, D.C. also had representatives present.

"We are here to show our support for Dr. Carhart and the services he provides," Sullivan said. "Our intention is to be peaceful and show him all the support we think he

SEE RALLY: PAGE 3



Anti-abortion protesters pray in silence with the word "Life" taped over their mouths on Saturday. Operation Rescue's "truth truck" is parked behind them.  
(NOELLE LYNN BLOOD/THE GATEWAY)

## Art and art history instructor a tireless advocate for the arts

TOM MCCAULEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

From her office crammed with books and artwork, UNO Art and Art History instructor Shari Hofschire directs the Center for Innovation in Arts Education. Lesson plans fill the shelves, and educational posters pile up between chairs. With fellow Art and Art History professor Joanne Sowell, Hofschire spends long days writing art curriculum for educators across the U.S.

According to its Web site, the Center for Innovation in Arts Education organizes, aids and collaborates on art education projects with K-16 educators, arts institutions and organizations on the local, state and national levels. The CIAE hosts seminars like the Prairie Visions Institute, a weeklong workshop that gives educators the tools to integrate the arts into all aspects of the classroom, not just art class.

Last year, the CIAE won the UNO Chancellor's Strategic Planning Award for Community Engagement. The award is given to both academic and non-academic units that "exemplify a commitment to furthering UNO's strategic goals," according to UNO's Web site.

But writing lesson plans and directing the CIAE is not all Hofschire does.

Recently, Hofschire was elected president of the Board of Directors of Nebraskans for the Arts, a statewide non-profit arts advocacy organization that is a member of the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network.

Hofschire said one of her main goals is for Nebraska to regain its art coordinator. Unlike most other states, Nebraska currently has no one to oversee public art projects and arts education curriculum. The position has been vacant for a few years and efforts to revive it have failed.

Though drawing support from both the State Department and the State Board of Education, and even making it into the state legislature's budget, the art coordinator position was line-item vetoed two years in a row by Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman, Hofschire said.

Hofschire deeply disagrees with Heineman's decision, seeing

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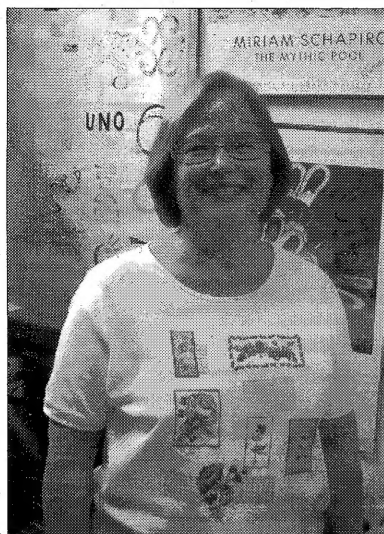
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Shari Hofschire, recently elected president of the Board of Directors of Nebraskans for the Arts, shown in her office. (Tom McCauley/The Gateway)

### FROM ARTS: PAGE 1

it as opposed to the interest of Nebraskans.

"We did a survey and I was astonished at what strong support there was across the state from parents and business leaders, for the arts," Hofschire said. "I think Nebraska has a really good attitude

toward the arts."

Hofschire's tireless advocacy for the arts resonates with federal guidelines for the importance of arts education. According to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the arts are defined as a core subject on par with reading, math and science and have been proven to play a large role in childhood development.

Earlier this month, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan sent a letter urging school districts not to cut art, music, theater and dance classes from the budget.

"The arts can help students become tenacious, team-oriented problem solvers who are confident and able to think creatively," Duncan said. "These qualities can be especially important in improving learning among students from economically disadvantaged circumstances."

Thanks to the work done by groups such as Nebraskans for the Arts and by everyday letter-writing citizens, \$50 million for the National Endowment for the Arts was kept

### FROM FLU: PAGE 1

"The first week of school, we're all saying that we want you to come to class... and yet on the flip side, we're saying, 'Stay home if you're sick,'" Adler said. "We were trying to come up with a policy that would allow the flexibility so we can continue education and allow people to get well and get their families well."

Adler said that individuals should "self-isolate" themselves and adopt a "flu buddy," especially students living on-campus, to tend to their needs when ill.

"I think college students kind

of feel bulletproof – nothing's going to happen to me, I'm not sick, I'm healthy," Adler said. "We're asking people to let somebody know if you're not feeling well, so somebody will check in on you just because, if it does go bad, it will go bad quick."

Student Health Services is assembling flu kits to distribute to the residence halls. The flu kits include pain reliever tablets, cough suppressants, disposable thermometers, hand sanitizer and brochures on limiting the spread of the disease.

Adler said Student Health

Services is going to continue to treat everyone with care, as well as implement proper hygiene procedures, such as frequent hand-washing, disposing of used Kleenex and maintaining a clean work or living space.

Students should also consider getting the H1N1 flu vaccination. "Douglas County has allocated UNO enough vaccine, so we can vaccinate everybody," Adler said. Dr. Philip Smith, chief of infectious diseases at UNMC, said the vaccine is currently being tested for safety, and should be ready in October.

in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Hofschire said. Hofschire developed her intense devotion to art during a three-year stay in Germany, where she taught in American schools. While in Europe, she visited lots of museums and began to understand how developments in literature, art, music, science and philosophy influence a culture's history. Upon her return to the U.S., she took Art History classes while working toward her Master's in English. Eventually, Hofschire attended George Washington University for her doctorate, and became a UNO instructor in 1999.

In addition to her importance in both the arts and education communities, Hofschire is considered quite the boon to UNO by her coworkers. "She has tremendous community outreach and she's got so many things going on," UNO Art and Art History secretary Susan Kurtz said. "The neat thing is she does them all well."

In addition to her arts and

education activities, Hofschire is a member of Omaha South High School's Hall of Fame and the District 66 Board of Education. In 1979, she wrote a book, "What's in this Place?" about fun things for children to do in Omaha, donating profits from the book to the then-fledgling Children's Museum. Hofschire also served as president of the Children's Museum before it found a permanent home.

Despite her hard-earned status, Hofschire chooses to remain humble.

"I'm very lucky to be where I am and have what I've got," she said.

While Hofschire balances a lot of demanding jobs, she said she draws inspiration from long walks in nature. When outdoors, Hofschire said she gains perspective on her life and endeavors.

"You just look around and you realize that whatever problems you're facing, that we are so small compared to this and there are bigger problems in the world," she said.

is that many physicians do not do a laboratory test anymore. It's difficult to get the data."

Students should still beware of the seasonal virus and other rhinoviruses that cause the irregular cold, Pour said.

Even in her sudden passing, Serednytsky will live on in the hearts of her friends and family.

Eugene Sedletsky, a close family friend, said Serednytsky was a "wonderful person."

Serednytsky and her family, immigrants from Ukraine, helped Sedletsky and his family begin a life after immigrating into the United States soon after.

"Her kindness and zest for life was a core part of her personality that you'd never see her vibrant and determined outlook falter," Sedletsky said. "She was always ready to take on the challenges of life, despite the unfortunate circumstances that she always had to bear."

Serednytsky never let her battle with muscular dystrophy get the best of her.

Amit Mukherjee, a close friend, said her passion and kindness were her defining characteristics.

"She was a student of the human psyche and was always aware of how many people erroneously arrived at the conclusion that a disabled body must correlate to a disabled mind," Mukherjee said. "She still worked hard to see the good in everyone and through empathy, attempted to excuse the behavior of those who often acted inexcusably."

"It's not as good as the normal one, in the sense it looks like it doesn't give you as much immunity as one shot," Smith said. "Even if they have a vaccine that works fairly well, sometimes the side effects won't show up until a month or two later."

Douglas County Health Director Dr. Adi Pour said that she suspects the activity of H1N1 to increase as fall approaches.

"In Douglas County, we have more than 100 cases, but we really have stopped counting cases," Pour said. "The reason for it

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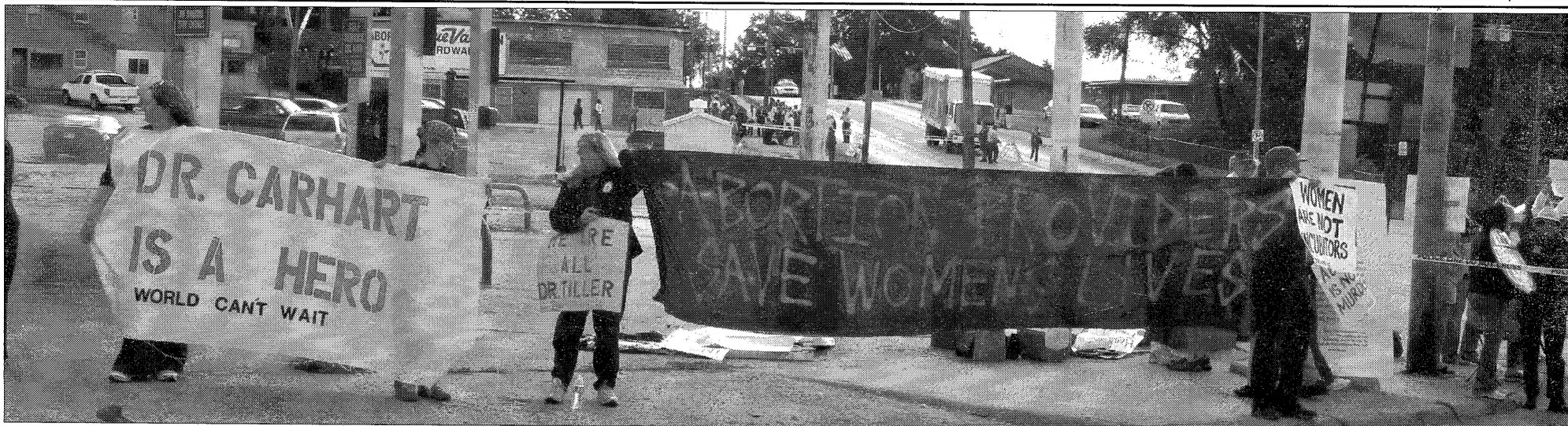
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Abortion rights activists hold banners and signs on Saturday morning. (NOELLE LYNN BLOOD/THE GATEWAY)

FROM **RALLY:** PAGE 1

deserves. We want to show our support for a woman's right to choose. Dr. Carhart's work is important and this clinic should always be allowed to be open. "

Larry Donlan runs Rescue the Heartland, a subchapter of Operation Rescue. A handful of anti-abortion demonstrators were out on Friday, and many more showed up to pray on Saturday.

"We're here like we are every day," said Donlan. "Whenever this abortion clinic is open to kill children, we're here. Why we're here is to pray for the children that are going to die and show the community through our presence that these children are real and these children are dying."

Beth Bene, 18, a freshman nursing major, said she is firmly anti-abortion. Bene was raised Catholic and believes strongly that any stage of pregnancy constitutes a life.

"A baby is a baby, no matter what stage it is," Bene said. "If God didn't want the baby there, he wouldn't have allowed the mother to get pregnant."

While Donlan's assemblage said group prayers, the abortion rights activists chanted, "Welcome, welcome. This clinic stays open!" They also held up sheets at the clinic entrance to block the media from photographing or interviewing clients.

Doug Paterson, a professor in UNO's theatre department, has been working actively on abortion rights issues since 1973. He worked as an escort at the clinics in Omaha during the 1980s, before they all shut down. He said students should take events such as the weekend's

demonstration as a chance to learn.

"This is one of those issues that is not only a practical issue of women being able to have a choice over their own bodies," Paterson said, "but it's an educational sort of thing for students to learn about the forces of political power in the United States and the world and how those forces can be whipsawed through extraordinary propaganda and force and violence and the complicity of both major parties to conspire against fundamental constitutional rights."

UNO political science major Daniel McCarville, 22, said the abortion debate is entirely relevant to college students.

"We're supposed to be getting educated, so we should be able to make informed decisions and think critically," McCarville said. "If we're just going to give in to what we feel and not use our education, then college fails us."

He also said he would generally not encourage a woman to have an abortion, but considers the right to an abortion a founding precept to America. McCarville added that, as a man, it is not his place to tell a woman whether to have an abortion.

"There's definitely a problem of knowledge there," he said.

Students coping with an unexpected pregnancy can expect a wealth of information and help from Student Health Services. References to UNO's Counseling Center and various family planning clinics are available, as well as copious amounts of literature on adoption.

"When they come in here, they already have an idea in their head and then we're just trying to sound out all

the pieces," said Marcia Adler, director of Student Health Services.

She said when students come to speak with her, if they haven't had an abortion in their lives, they usually know someone who has.

"It's relevant because even if you haven't had the experience of an unplanned pregnancy, you might," said Melanie Budine, a nurse at student health services. "You never know when that might happen and if it does, it would be a shame for you to not have this choice."

Budine has had experience in abortion clinics and expressed concern about the possibility of all abortions being made illegal. She said for women "to have to go to the back street and get dirty and unsafe procedures is a shame."

Nicholas Heald, 23, of Kansas said he plans to spend the rest of his life fighting to make abortion illegal.

"I am willing to do anything to save lives," Heald said. "I am willing to come out of my comfort zone. I'm willing to be around opposition, which we clearly are. I was definitely around that at Tiller's clinic. I've been flipped off more times than I can count. I've been screamed at, cursed at, but I haven't seen anything yet."

Even though this war of words, rights and religion rages on, Carhart is hopeful.

"The message needs to be that the women of America need to stand up for their rights," he said. "I think this is just the basis of where we're going. We'll show everyone that Nebraska is pro-life and pro-choice. I am pro-life and pro-choice."

# ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

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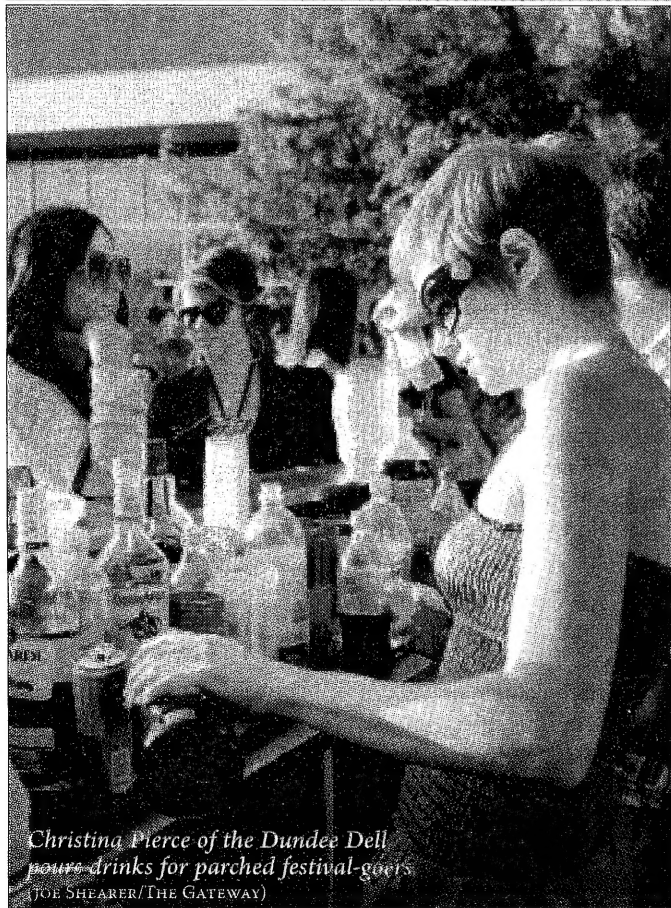
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In order to waive the charges, your plan must be reviewed by  
Marcia Adler at Student Health Services, MBSC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

before: **September 11, 2009**

**THIS MUST BE DONE EACH SEMESTER!**





Christina Pierce of the Dundee Dell pours drinks for parched festival-goers. (JOE SHEARER/THE GATEWAY)



Local talent Andrews Avenue performs for the evening crowd Saturday. (JOE SHEARER/THE GATEWAY)



A bartender's view of the festival action. (JOE SHEARER/THE GATEWAY)

## Midtown festival brings music, activities for all ages to enjoy

EMILY JOHNSON  
ASSISTANT SECTION EDITOR

Security guards closed off 50th and 51st Streets as people flooded Dundee on Aug. 29 for the neighborhood's annual Dundee Day Street Festival and Music Jam.

The day's events kicked off with the Pancake Man serving breakfast to patrons. The Dundee Parade followed, stretching from Memorial Park to 50th and Underwood Streets.

Local crafters and artists held sidewalk sales for parents while children could partake in a variety of youth-focused activities including inflatable rides, a cookie-decorating contest, Amazing Arthur and his Amazing Balloons, singer/songwriter Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove and the Kid's Olympics.

Dundee resident Beth Nodes said she enjoys this event and seeing her two children's faces when they arrive.

"We always come for the parade," said Nodes, who has lived in the midtown development for the past seven years.

The annual parade is just one tradition that makes the festival popular for local families. Dundee Days began about 30 years ago by a few midtown merchants. Now, with the collaborations between local Dundee restaurant and business owners, participating crafters, artists, local neighborhood organizations and residents, the event's success has surged.

"The nice thing is that Dundee is such a social neighborhood," said Pat Gobel, owner of the Dundee Dell. "People come here to meet their neighbors and they bring their dogs."

Gobel said he's helped coordinate Dundee Days each year for the past nine years, but in the past, the festival was held only every couple of years.

"We learn from our mistakes and try not to repeat those, and we keep trying to add on to it and just have a good time," Gobel said. "It's quite an endeavor now, but

it's a lot of fun and works out well for us."

In addition to the parade, a cookie-decorating contest was another popular event geared towards children.

"I think there's more frosting on the kids than the cookies," Gobel said. "It's just adorable."

As the day wore on, local bands Oxygen, Naked Plywood, Andrews Avenue, Little Black Stereo and Strictly Roots took the stage and performed for the crowds who lingered at beer gardens hosted by restaurants such as Dario's Brasserie, Beer and Loathing in Dundee and the Dundee Dell.

Gobel said that after nearly a decade of coordinating Dundee Days, he has learned how to cater the event to everyone's interests while still maintaining an orderly and safe environment.

"We really want to discourage any hooligan behavior or rowdiness, so we've learned to shut down the music at 11 p.m.," he said. "We're not looking to have a frat party."

Planning for this year's Dundee Days began in February so the locals could have enough time to obtain necessary permits and licenses by early March and April.

Despite the rigorous organization and dedication required to run the festival, Gobel said he is always open to suggestions, like the last-minute bingo tent sponsored by Creighton Medical Associates Clinic.

"Little things just pop up, and it's always a work in progress, to develop and evolve," Gobel said. "It's just such a great draw to the neighborhood and shows all the nice things about Dundee. People really love this neighborhood."

Although many have been affected by the current economic situation, Dundee Days had a steady stream of patrons take part in the festival.

"Dundee is just thriving," Gobel said. "I keep hearing about the recession on the news, and we're having a record year. I think that's a great testimony to the community and how much they care."

## ALL JOURNALISTS OR THOSE WHO WANT TO BE...

## INFO FROM THE PROS

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# Local fashion show drives home message about drinking, driving

ANDREA BARBE  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

High fashion, hoppin' music and a good cause help raise awareness for drunken driving during one local fashion show with a conscience.

The Fashion Victim Fashion Show kicked off on Aug. 29 in the CPACS Building Collaborating Commons with the goal of raising money for a local organization while offering attendees a different perspective on issues that affect everyone: drinking and driving.

Senior Amy Wieczorek was sitting in her UNO community health class six months ago trying to think of ways she could give back to the Omaha community and incorporate her hobbies that would get lots of people buzzing around town.

"I was trying to think about something that would do with my major, but would involve speaking with pageantry and also involve fashion," Wieczorek said. "And I just thought of the fashion fundraiser. It just kind of came to me."

Wieczorek enlisted the help of Mothers Against Drunk Driving to put this show together. For 18 weeks, Wieczorek said she recruited local models, sponsors, fashion designers and hairstylists to help with the show. The community health major said she became personally involved in MADD after losing her best friend, Morgan B. Hohnbaum, to a drunken driver two years ago. Hohnbaum and Joshua Milana, 20, were on a motorcycle in Lincoln when a drunken driver turned in front of them, killing Hohnbaum and Milana instantly.

"Amy came to one of our victim meetings for Mothers Against Drunk Driving and she came because she was interested in making a difference," said Dana McCown, honorary chairwoman of MADD Nebraska. "She kind of had the idea. So she got to know a few of us that got impacted as she has been and then she pitched her idea to the executive director, Sim Reynolds, and Sim just kind of let her run with it. She just a great job and I'm so proud of her."

Wieczorek said it was her time spent with MADD and previous speaking engagements that motivated her to put together this fashion show.

"I've been a member of MADD for a while because of losing Morgan," Wieczorek said. "I've been speaking at the high schools. And I spoke here [at UNO] last spring. So I was thinking about a fashion show fundraiser."

Unfortunately, Wieczorek wasn't the only one at the show who had lost someone close to them due to drunken driving.

"I had a friend who was killed by a drunk driver in high school," senior Brenda Reed said. Reed was one of several models in the fashion show. "She got hit by a drunk driver and she passed away."

The event started at 7 p.m. Speakers included Sally Ganem, First Lady of Nebraska, Chuck Elley, a Nebraska State Trooper and Wieczorek's uncle, and Justin Reese, a UNO junior who was hit by a drunken driver last September and in a coma that doctor's predicted he would never come out of.

The fashion show followed, with models sporting gear

from Nouvelle Eve, the Gap, Runway Boutique, Wake N Skate Boardhouse, Liz Moldenhauer, Roots and Wings, Pastel Groove House by Shamina Wiek, the Buckle and Robot Luv. Additionally, all the female models wore red shoes in honor of MADD.

Hy-Vee, Bag 'N Save, No Frills Supermarkets, O'Hara Plumbing, 7 Day Furniture and the Nebraska Grocery Industry Association were all red carpet sponsors for the fashion show with all proceeds benefiting MADD Nebraska in memory in Morgan Hohnbaum.

"Besides from tonight, we've raised \$6,000 [from sponsors]," Wieczorek said.

With the profits raised from the fashion show, MADD can use that money towards helping out the Omaha area, even during a recession.

"A lot of the budget for the non-profit agencies was cut this year because of the economy and MADD was no different," McCown said. "So a lot of the resources we've had to help people have been restricted. We use that money to give back to the folks in the community."

Wieczorek said that she was impressed with the generosity from attendees and sponsors, and added that she was pleasantly surprised by the turnout.

"We had 276 seats in this area and the last three or four rows weren't filled up, so maybe 250 people [attended]."

While the show's overall message about drinking and driving was clear, the volunteers also drove this message home.

"I'm always the DD. I hardly ever drink," Reed said. "So I'm usually the one that drives people around or taxi. I just want to make sure no one drives drunk if I'm there."

SEE FASHION: PAGE 8



Senior Amy Wieczorek thanks the crowd for attending the Fashion Victims Fashion Show, which she helped organized. (ANDREA BARBE/THE GATEWAY)

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# Maverick football opens 2009 with a bang, downing East Central University 48-0

SEAN OWENS  
STAFF WRITER

Despite the return of only eight starters from 2008, the Maverick football team opened the 2009 campaign with the always-expected intensity of a Pat Behrns-coached team.

After losing 18 letterwinners, including a 2009 NFL draftee - former quarterback Zach Miller - the team did not seem to be pressured by the question of resurgence.

Taking the reins in 2009, senior quarterback Greg Wunderlich led UNO to a 48-0 thrashing of East Central (Okla.) University in front of 8,033 fans at Caniglia Field last Thursday evening.

Starting in his first game since 2006, the Naperville, Ill., native showed promise and efficiency, finishing 12-15 for 183 yards and three touchdowns in just three quarters of action.

"[Wunderlich] did a nice job tonight," Behrns said. "The offense did some things that surprised us a little bit. I'm really happy for these guys."

Although the senior had impressive numbers, the receivers were questionable coming into the game, with none having ever caught a pass for UNO.

"I'm not surprised about what these guys can do," Wunderlich said. "Some people might be surprised but I'm not, because I've seen what they have done in the summer and fall camps. They are a good group of guys."

The passing attack was widespread throughout the night with completions to four different receivers, including a touchdown catch by redshirt freshman wide receiver Brian Miller, a 30-yarder by junior tight end Mike Higgins and a 23-yarder by sophomore tight end Austin Wells.

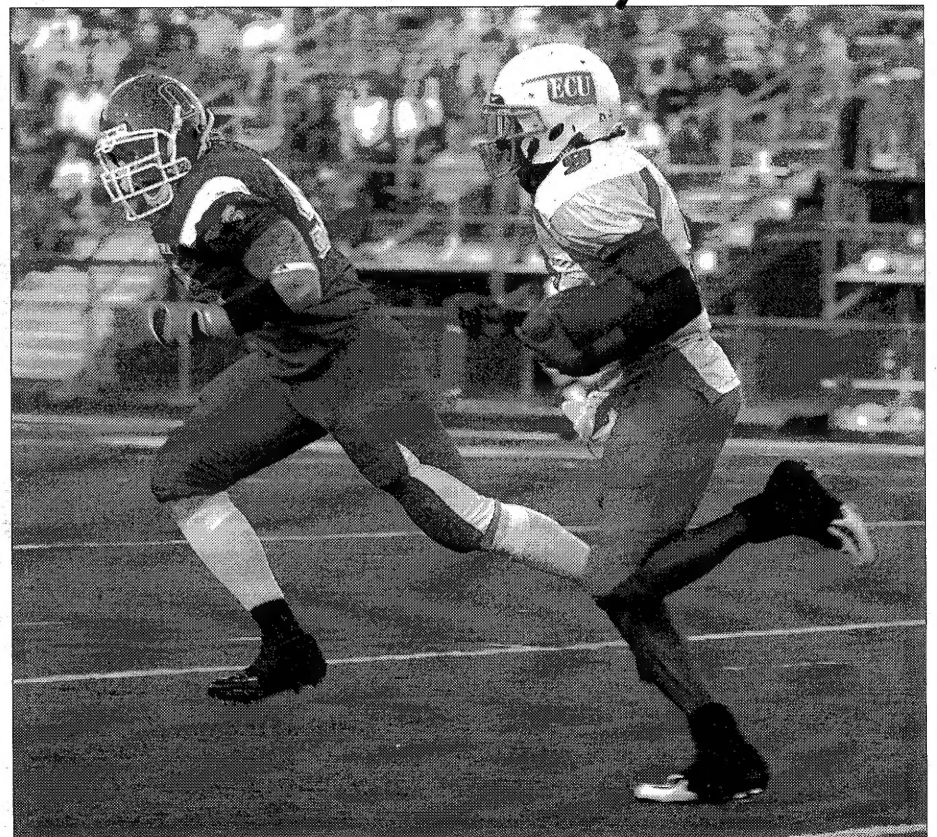
The Maverick offense scored early and often, setting the tone early in the game with a quick 9-yard pass from Wunderlich to Miller. The eight-play, 58-yard drive took only 4:08 off the clock to put the Mavericks up 7-0 following junior kicker Greg Zuerlein's extra point.

Fourteen seconds after kicking off to the Tigers, the Mavericks' defense showed their teeth.

With 10:38 on the clock in the first quarter, senior safety Jason Zabka intercepted ECU's Marcus Johnson on his first pass from scrimmage and returned it 42 yards for the touchdown.

Johnson's errant pass put the Mavericks up 14-0, but UNO was penalized 15 yards on the following kick-off for a personal foul against junior linebacker Bobby Stroup during the interception. The pick-six was the first of two interceptions on the night for the Mavericks. The fiery defense allowed only four first downs on 63 total yards in UNO's first shutout since Oct. 1, 2005, against Oklahoma Panhandle State.

"I was amazed at how good the defense was out there," junior tailback Duane Bowen said. "Going up against these guys



UNO's Nate Wissink closes in on East Central's Marcus Johnson during the first quarter of Thursday's game. (ANDREA BARBE/THE GATEWAY)

in practice has been tough, but to be on the sidelines and actually watch them pounding on somebody else was pretty nice to see."

The Maverick running game complimented the passing attack with a stellar display of balance, finishing with a ratio of 221- to -222 yards, respectively.

With Behrns rotating his running backs, Bowen ended up carrying most of the load for the Mavericks. The 5-foot-11, 205-pound back from Compton, Calif., finished the game as UNO's leading rusher with 17 carries for 90 yards (5.3 yard per carry) and two

SEE FOOTBALL: PAGE 7

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Redshirt Freshman quarterback John Teigland breaks away from the tackle of East Central's Darnell Barnes during the second quarter of Thursday's game. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)



Quarterback Greg Wunderlich scrambles away as East Central's Curtis Niccum and UNO's Dennis Bergland look on during the second quarter of Thursday's game. (ANDREA BARBE/THE GATEWAY)

#### FROM FOOTBALL: PAGE 6

touchdowns.

"I think our offensive line is pretty good," Bowen said. "When they block like that it makes it pretty easy for me to move the ball."

Junior tailback Bryce Hawthorne contributed with 11 carries for 66 yards. Senior Robert Wesley added 41 yards on five carries and one touchdown, but he left the game in the first quarter with an undisclosed ankle injury.

"I think we have a nice change of pace thing going on between our running backs," Bowen said. "It's a good way to show the defense something different."

The team's intensity was in fluid motion throughout the night. The athletic administration matched their efforts by putting in some hard work of their own before the game, while also providing a post-game fireworks display for the public.

With the university's hiring of athletic director Trev Alberts, the excitement about UNO athletics will be sure to grow throughout the community.

"I'll tell you what, I really compliment [Alberts] and his staff for the excitement that we saw from the fans tonight," Behrns said. "When I see [Alberts] out there before the game moving parking barriers in a tie and putting numbers on the seats, well, I really have to compliment him and his staff for what they pulled off today. That's an environment that we haven't had in a long time, and the campus community should be proud of what the administration did today. It was fun."

The Mavericks will continue their pursuit of an MIAA title Sept. 5 at 12 p.m. when the team travels to Kearney, Neb., to face the in-state rival Lopers in the annual battle for the Victory Bell.



Austin Wells (front) celebrates with Adolph Overstreet (back) after Wells' 23-yard touchdown reception put UNO up 35-0 late in the second quarter. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

## Grad student takes badminton gold at State Games of America

TODD HANSEN  
STAFF WRITER

UNO graduate student Pallav Deka can add a few more medals to his trophy case after recently winning gold at the State Games of America. He also won the singles competition at the Midwest Badminton Championship earlier this year in Louisville, Ky.

Colorado Springs was the site of this year's games, which held competitions for 31 events. More than 10,000 athletes and fans attended the games that ran from July 30 to Aug. 2. In order to qualify for the games Deka had to first win the Nebraska State Games.

"It was special winning that tournament because I almost stopped playing in 2005 when I came over to the States," Deka said.

Deka played badminton growing up and picked it up again after a friend reintroduced him to the sport. His family has also been supportive during the State Games.

"I had the privilege that my wife, daughter and father-in-law could come with me," Deka said.

By simply competing on the national level Deka was in good company. Prominent athletes such as Mike Mussina, Dan Gable, Roy Jones, Nancy Kerrigan and Kobe Bryant have competed in the State Games of America before and competition for badminton was tough. More than 30 competitors from all over the country showed up and more than 30 doubles teams competed. Officials from the U.S. Badminton Association were in attendance.

Deka felt confident to be in the final four thanks to his previous win at the Midwest championships.

"The big boost was in Kentucky, I beat a player in the final who was ranked in the top five nationally, it gave me

a morale boost," Deka said.

In the final of the State Games of America, Deka cruised to victory, but the score might have been more lopsided than the actual match.

"The singles final was a good match, he was a good player from Texas," he said.

In addition to winning the singles event, Deka took the doubles gold with Lincoln, Neb., partner Anh Nguyen.

In tennis, players regularly serve shots over 100 mph. In badminton the serve is of less value but some smash shots can reach over 200 mph.

"It's the fastest racquet game there is," he said.

Deka's own game involves more finesse and patience.

"I rely on working the other player around, I'm not a power player."

The next step for Deka is trying to compete against the best in the nation.

"I really want to see where I stand against the top four in the nation, that's the aim," he said.

Of the several tournaments Deka competed in this summer, the only one he didn't win was in New York.

"The players there compete five, six days a week, they coach and play," Deka said. "I'm just trying to squeeze in the time between work, studies, lab work and family."

In addition to competing nationally, Deka is also the standing president of the UNO Badminton Club. The club meets every Wednesday and Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday afternoons.

"We have a wide variety of players who come, we try and do some coaching to help bring the beginners out," he said. "The club members are great and supportive, they helped me with drills preparing for tournaments."

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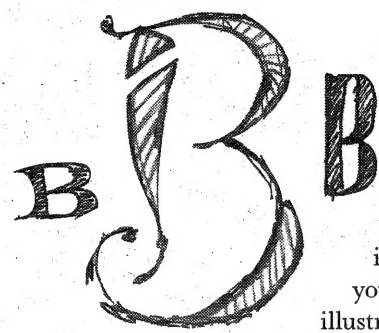
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## This Land is Your Land, This Land is My Land, Except in February



Black or not, if you should find yourself asking, "Why are we talking about this when it's not even February?" you will have in that instant illustrated the practice and customs criticized herein, in which Black History Month as a teaching tool contributes to the marginalization of Blackness.

Black is Black all year long and as such should not need an angle to make discussing its issues relevant or acceptable. I'm aware that this flies in the face of common practice and that is my intent.

For a large segment of the population, the way Blackness is taught, regarded and presented is as present tense as any other social issue. It shapes thinking and affects the way people will interact with people of color, and by extension can influence the experiences of Blacks and Whites in the workplace and in the college classroom. It is what a lot of us are up against on a daily basis and is, in that case, always relevant.

My heart was warmed one February afternoon as I watched a group of kindergarteners practicing for their Black History Month program. The visual of this "it's a small world" reminiscent interaction of cute kids from varying ethnic backgrounds celebrating a shared history filled me with sentiment and nostalgia - until I paid closer attention to the nature of the pageant.

I was not surprised to see the perennial favorites like Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr., but also included were Denzel Washington and Halle Berry. These are talented actors, sure, but Black leaders?

Hadn't we moved away from looking to entertainment as the legitimate or primary source of Black greatness? I tried to recall learning of great white athletes or actors in history classes. I concluded that all of the white heroes I

had learned about in school were politicians, clergymen, scientists and scholars. White athletes and entertainers were mentioned usually in publications concerned primarily with those fields respectively.

Was this as big a deal as it seemed to be? I fear that the message sent to these young people, as it was sent to many generations before, is that Black greatness can be rented at Blockbuster or sampled at Best Buy, that it could be witnessed on the Monday night gridiron or the All-star hardwood. In politics and academia it has been such a historical rarity that we are forced to look to entertainment to fill the void left by a lack of Black scholarship and initiative.

In retrospect, this was probably the first lie I was told about race as a child and I believed it wholeheartedly until I witnessed otherwise, until I discovered otherwise in myself.

The history of the United States is one that is rich in triumph and marked by shame all at once. It includes oppressive practices which are, for the most part, not unique to American culture. There is at least one system of disadvantage, though, the likes of which the rest of the world has yet to duplicate with such enduring scope and malice. This is, of course, America's racial history involving Black Americans.

There have been some attempts to rectify the irrevocable wrongs done to Blacks in this country, not the least of which is the instituting of Black History Month.

Carter G. Woodson's original purpose for what was previously known as Negro History Week was to educate Blacks about their origins in an effort to foster esteem and pride among a people who, until that point in history, had been discouraged from learning of their civilized, capable, even regal routes.

Proponents of Black History Month as an educating tool contend that this goal is not yet achieved. They argue that America simply hasn't shown itself to be ready for this undertaking of changing the dynamic upon which this society functions.

Recalling recent transgressions of disrespect committed by Don Imus,

television personality Dog the Bounty Hunter, and Michael Richards, advocates of Black History Month say these things don't happen in a society where all are regarded as equals. Rather, they demonstrate the unquestionable need for institutions and a curriculum that promotes at least an acceptance of Black Americans' place in American society.

One magazine columnist, responding to questions about the relevance of Black History Month, captures this sentiment saying, "A Kenyan proverb says, 'Until lions have historians, hunters will be heroes.' Black History Month begins the process of making lions into historians."

Until then, its supporters argue that educators and individuals have a responsibility to use Black History Month to teach honest history that treats the Black historical experience like the empowering, inspiring triumph that it is.

As an opponent of Black History Month, one must agree with its supporters that in America there is perhaps no more vivid, remarkable and measurable

example of the ever-transforming nature of history than can be seen in the journey of Black America.

The difference in social climate, political agenda and popular culture, from the time of Dubois to the time of "Dubya," is vast and is a testament to the greatness of this country that should be acknowledged with pride.

But, to fully acknowledge this legacy of improbable achievement, those in the education system must integrate these stories seamlessly into their respective disciplines. As there is admittedly not enough room or time in a given history course to include every single Black achievement or battle in the fight for political and social equality, the education system should better infuse Black History education into the larger curriculum.

The current approach perpetuates self segregation predicated on the notion that Black students have less in common with their White counterparts than they actually do and that Blackness functions only as an inferior appendage to Whiteness. The movement to rethink the education system's handling of Black history recognizes the need to forgo tradition in order to get to the root of what divides Americans.

### Commentary



Nikki Ivey

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### FROM FASHION: PAGE 5

With the success from this first fashion show, Wiecezorek said she hopes to keep this tradition alive for many years to come.

"We're going to try and make this an annual

event," Wiecezorek said. "I have gotten a lot of sponsors who have donated a ton of money and they really liked the idea of having designers designing mad logo outfits for next year and purses. We're going to go all out."

